AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A bending ring for supporting a glass sheet during heating, said bending ring comprising:

a pair of longitudinally extending tubular members being generally square-shaped in cross section;

a plurality of traversely extending tubular members being generally square-shaped in cross section, said plurality of traversely extending tubular members being fixedly coupled to said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members to form a generally rectangular assembly;

a pair of cross support tubular members being generally square-shaped in cross section, said pair of cross support tubular members being fixedly coupled to an intermediate section of said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members to provide cross-frame support;

a plurality of support brackets being separate from said pair of cross support tubular members and generally having a notched end defining an extending portion and a face portion, said extending portion positioned adjacent and in contact with a first side of one of said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members, said face portion abutting and in contact with a second side of said one of said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members; each of said plurality of support brackets

extending inwardly toward but not contacting the other of said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members;

a pair of central stationary members fixedly coupled to said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members via said plurality of support brackets such that said pair of central stationary members are positioned inboard of and offset from said generally rectangular assembly; and

a pair of outboard movable members movably coupled to said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members via said plurality of support brackets such that said pair of outboard movable members are positioned inboard of and offset from said generally rectangular assembly.

2. (Original) The bending ring according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a square-shaped tubular gusset fixedly coupled between at least one of the pair of longitudinally extending tubular member and at least one of said plurality of traversely extending tubular members.

3. (Original) The bending ring according to Claim 1 wherein said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members and said plurality of traversely extending tubular members are made of a stainless steel having an exterior dimension of approximately 1.25" x 1.25" with a wall thickness of approximately 1/16".

4. (Previously Presented) A bending ring for supporting a glass sheet during heating, said bending ring comprising:

a pair of longitudinally extending tubular members being generally square-shaped in cross section;

a plurality of traversely extending tubular members being generally square-shaped in cross section, said plurality of traversely extending tubular members being fixedly coupled to said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members to form a generally rectangular assembly;

a pair of cross support tubular members being generally square-shaped in cross section, said pair of cross support tubular members being fixedly coupled to an intermediate section of said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members to provide cross-frame support;

a plurality of support brackets being separate from said pair of cross support tubular members and generally having an extending portion and a face portion, said extending portion positioned adjacent a first side of one of said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members, said face portion abutting a second side of said one of said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members; each of said plurality of support brackets having a longitudinal axis extending inwardly toward the other of said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members;

a pair of central stationary members fixedly coupled to said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members via said plurality of support brackets such that said pair of central stationary members are positioned inboard of and offset from said generally rectangular assembly; and

a pair of outboard movable members movably coupled to said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members via said plurality of support brackets such that said pair of outboard movable members are positioned inboard of and offset from said generally rectangular assembly.

5. (Previously Presented) The bending ring according to Claim 4, further comprising:

a square-shaped tubular gusset fixedly coupled between at least one of the pair of longitudinally extending tubular member and at least one of said plurality of traversely extending tubular members.

6. (Previously Presented) The bending ring according to Claim 4 wherein said pair of longitudinally extending tubular members and said plurality of traversely extending tubular members are made of a stainless steel having an exterior dimension of approximately 1.25" x 1.25" with a wall thickness of approximately 1/16".